BABEL 2

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CC-29

★★★★★

SHŌNEN CHAMPION COMICS

BABEL 2

1

MITSUTERU YOKOYAMA

SCI-FI COMICS

MITSUTERU YOKOYAMA

秋田書店

少年チャンピオン・コミックス

SHŌNEN CHAMPION COMICS

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Babel II was first announced in Shonen Champion, in the June issue of 1971. It was intended to be a fun, amusing work filled with the amusement, thrill, and suspense of sci-fi. At first, it wasn't meant to be this long, and was planned to end in two or three months, but once it was announced there was so much support, that before I knew it, a two-to-three-month work went on for two years and four months. This work is undeservedly blessed to have been able to end and be missed by so many fans.

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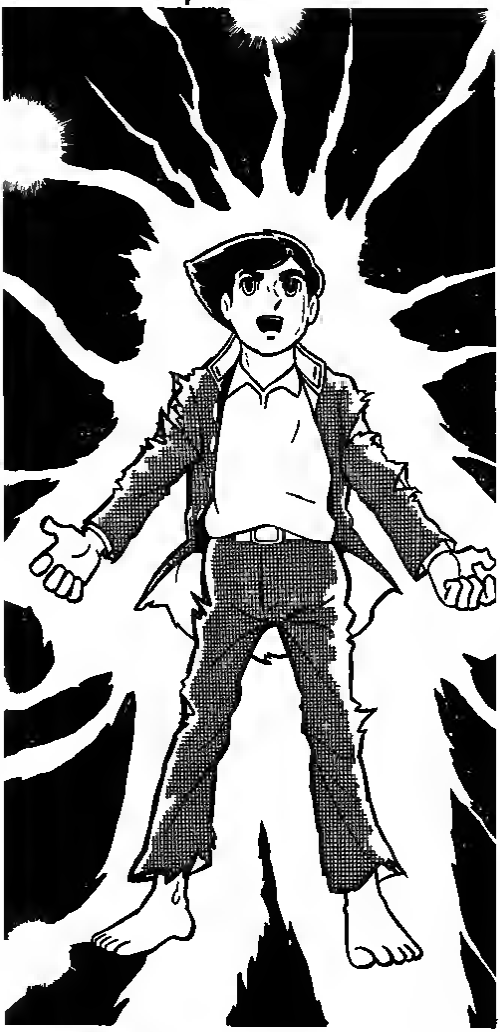
東京 秋田書店 発行

BABEL 2

バビル二世

Vol 01

Mitsuteru Yokoyama

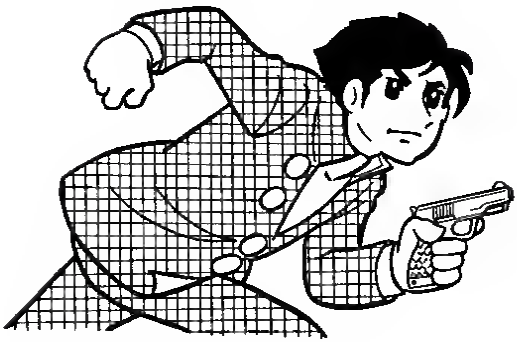


SHŌNEN CHAMPION COMICS

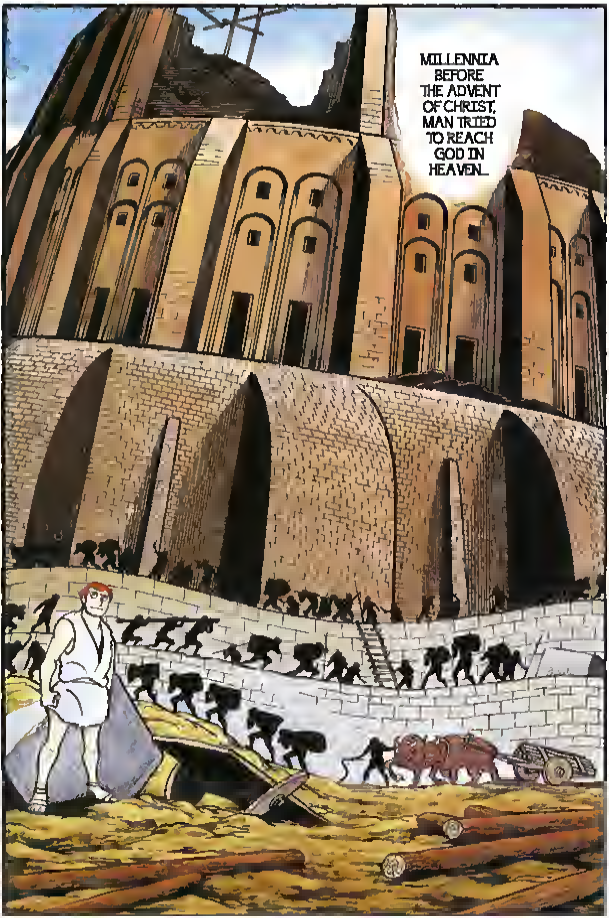
BABEL II

(VOLUME 01)

CONTENTS:

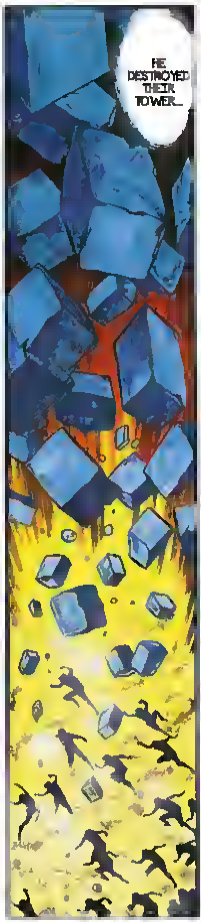


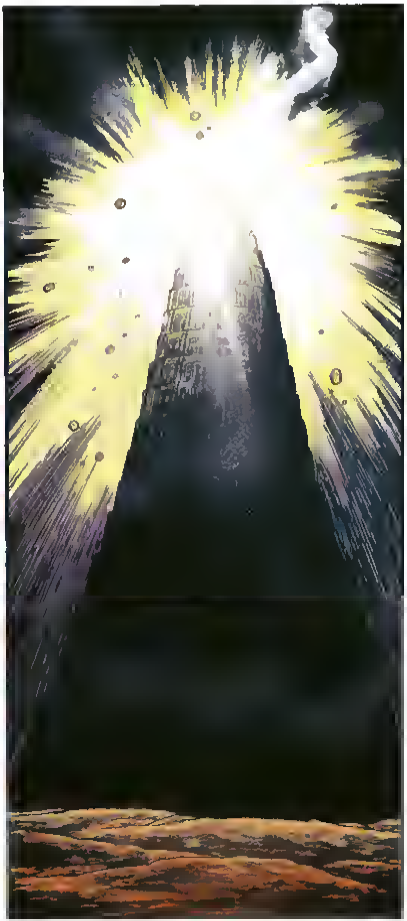
CHAPTER 001: THE MESSENGER OF BABEL ····· 11
CHAPTER 002: CONQUEROR OF THE HIMALAYAS ···· 56
CHAPTER 003: YOMI VANISHES INTO THE AIR ····· 133
CHAPTER 004: THE TERRIFYING REMODELLED HUMAN · 151
CHAPTER 005: THE IMMORTAL BABEL II ····· 184

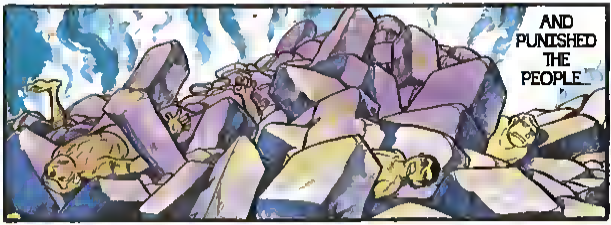

MILLENNIA BEFORE THE ADVENT OF CHRIST, MAN TRIED TO REACH GOD IN HEAVEN...

BUT GOD WAS ENRAGED BY THE AMBITION OF MAN.

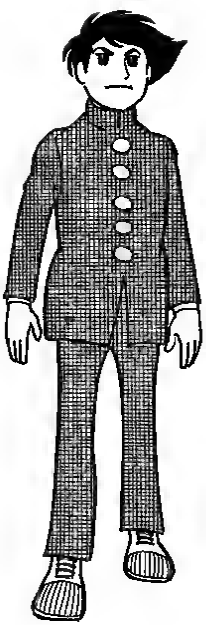
SO THEY BUILT A GIANT TOWER.


HE DESTROYED THEIR TOWER...

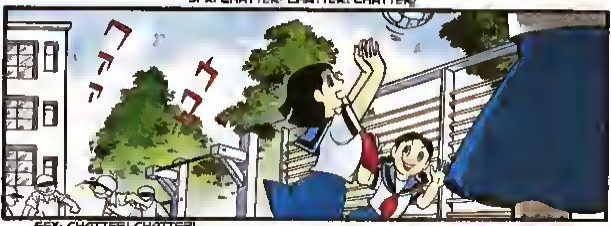



AND PUNISHED THE PEOPLE.

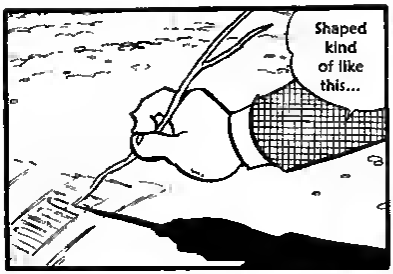
THIS IS THE STORY OF THE TOWER OF BABEL.

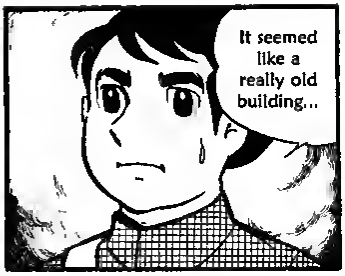


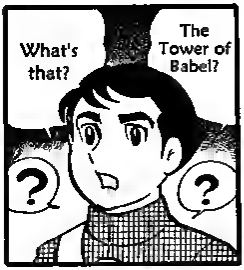
CHAPTER 001: THE MESSENGER OF BABEL

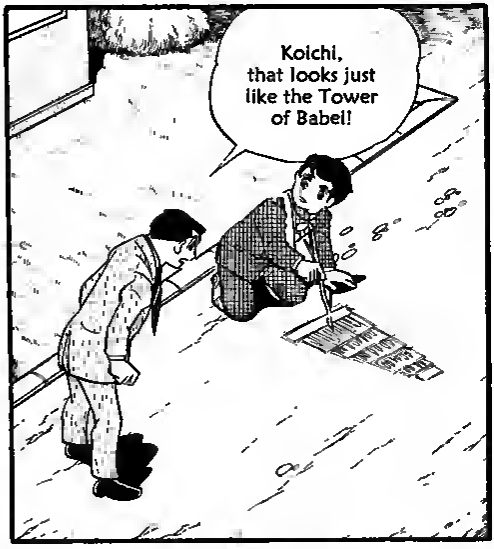


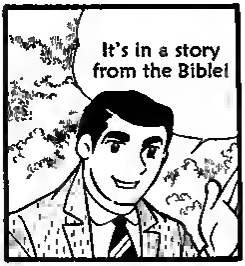
Is there something troubling you?
No. It's not really anything I'd call a trouble.
Oh, Professor!
Hey, Koichi! What's the matter? You've seemed pretty down lately.
The same dream every night?
I've just been having the same dream every night...
It's about these men building a tall, tall tower...
What's it about?


Shaped kind of like this...

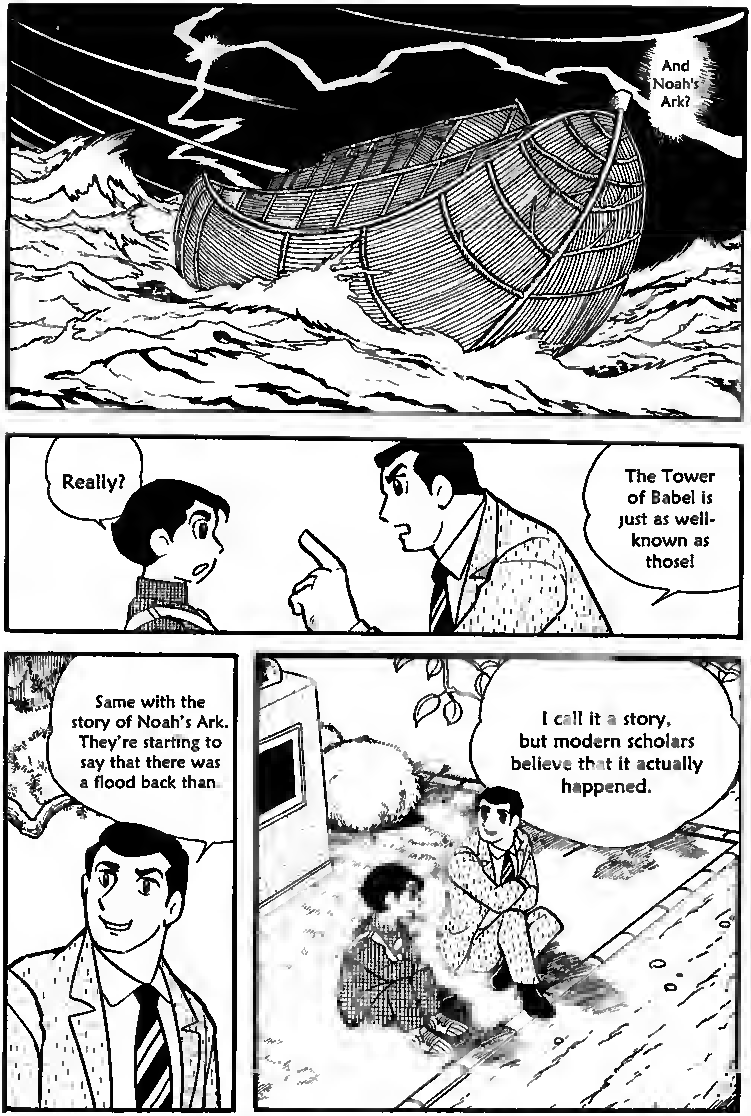

It seemed like a really old building...


What's that?
The Tower of Babel?


Koichi, that looks just like the Tower of Babel!


It's in a story from the Bible!

Ever hear of Adam and Eve?

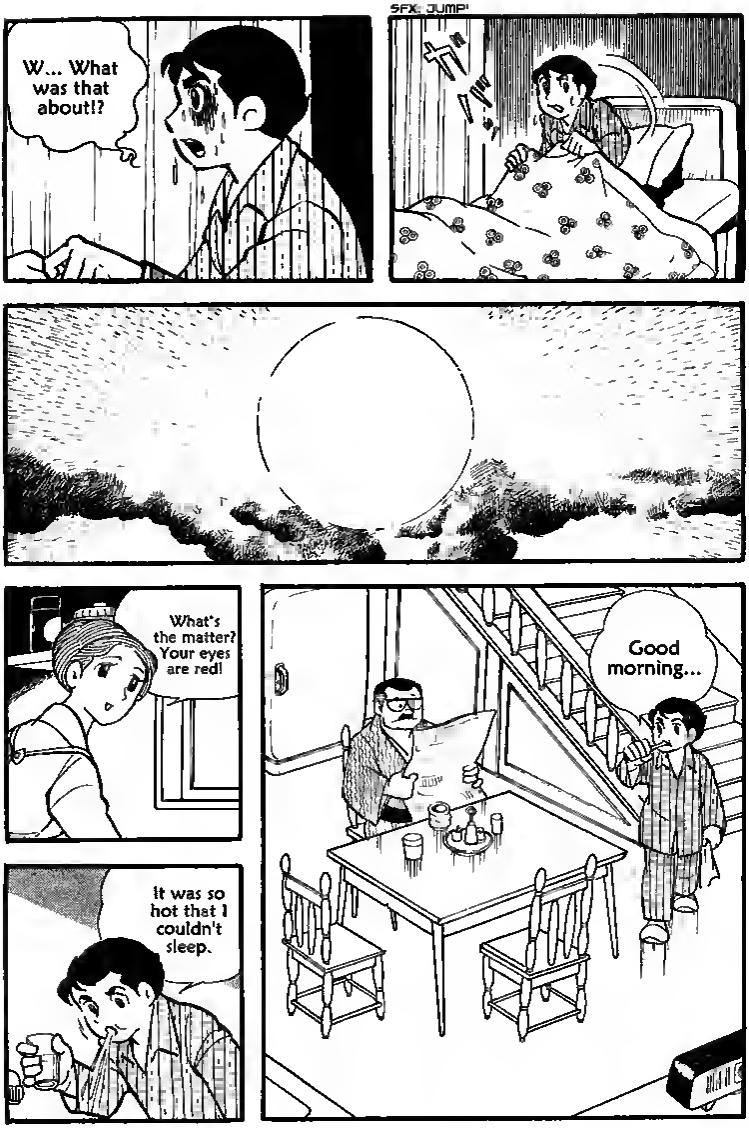

And Noah's Ark?
Really?
The Tower of Babel is just as well-known as those!
Same with the story of Noah's Ark. They're starting to say that there was a flood back than.
I call it a story, but modern scholars believe that it actually happened.

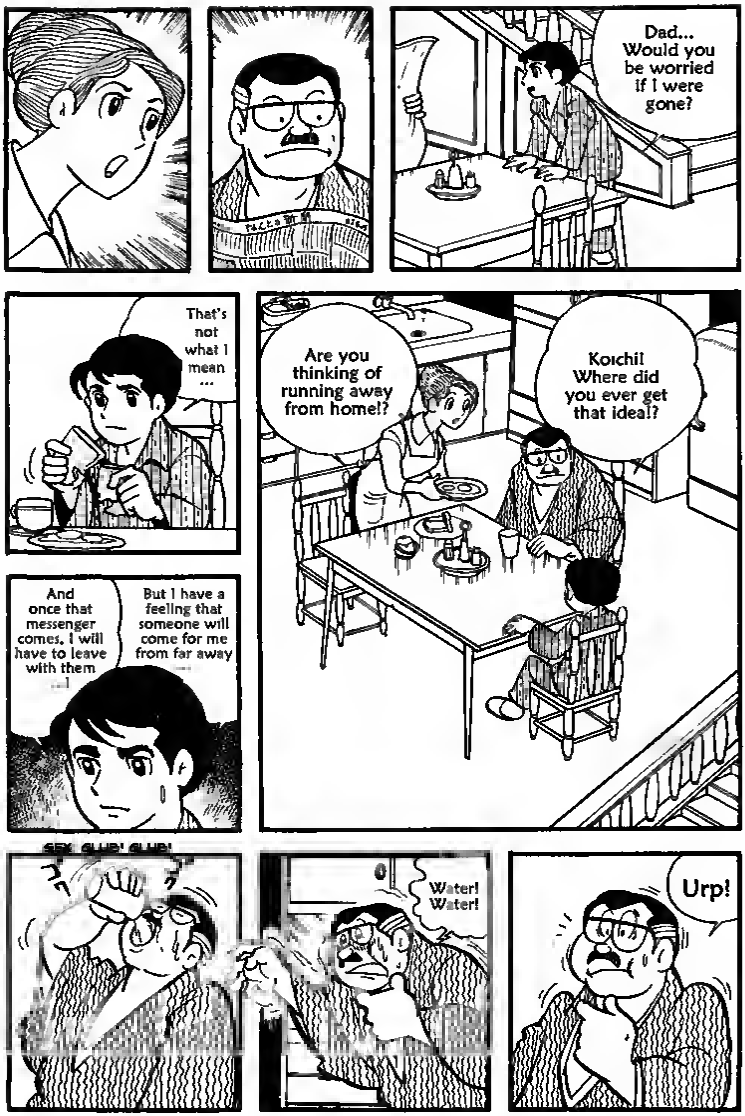
But why am I seeing it in my dreams?
Many of them believe the Tower of Babel was a ziggurat, a typical tower in ancient Mesopotamia.
Let's see...
No, that can't be true. If it wasn't in a book, it must've been on TV or in a movie.
But I've never heard of that story before!
Maybe you read about it in a book once, and the image is stuck in your head!
I hope you're right.
But it's really not worth overthinking

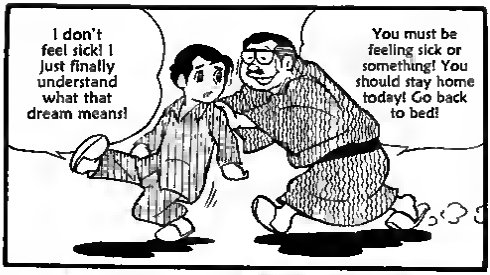
Professor... I'm having the same dream again...
Nn... Nnngg...
No, it's different... I don't see the Tower of Babel this time...

SFX: SWOOOSH!

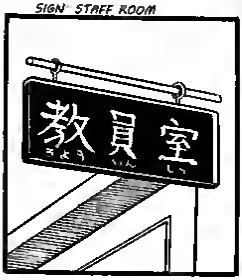
SFX: SWOOOSH!
SFX: FLASH!
SFX: RRRRRUMBLE!
Ahhh! There's sand rising up from where the Tower was!

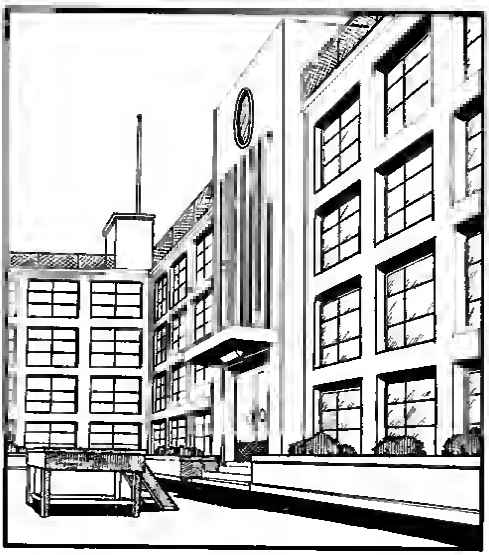

W... What was that about!?
SFX: JUMP!
What's the matter? Your eyes are red!
Good morning...
It was so hot that I couldn't sleep.


Dad... Would you be worried if I were gone?
That's not what I mean ...
Are you thinking of running away from home!?
Koichi! Where did you ever get that idea!?
And once that messenger comes, I will have to leave with them ...!
But I have a feeling that someone will come for me from far away
SFX: GLUP! GLUP!
Water! Water!
Urp!


I don't feel sick! I just finally understand what that dream means!
You must be feeling sick or something! You should stay home today! Go back to bed!

Phewww!

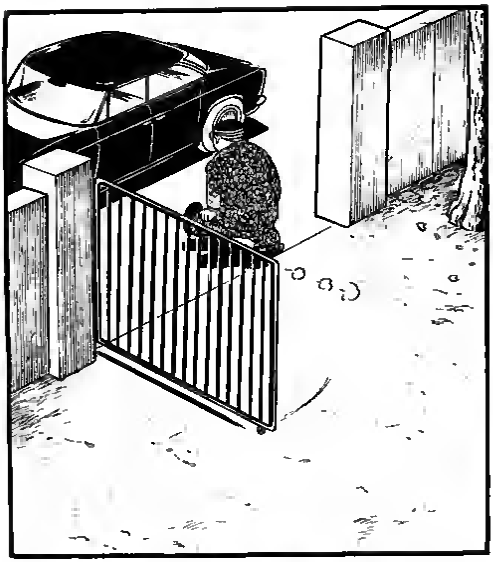

SIGN STAFF ROOM
教員室



Really?

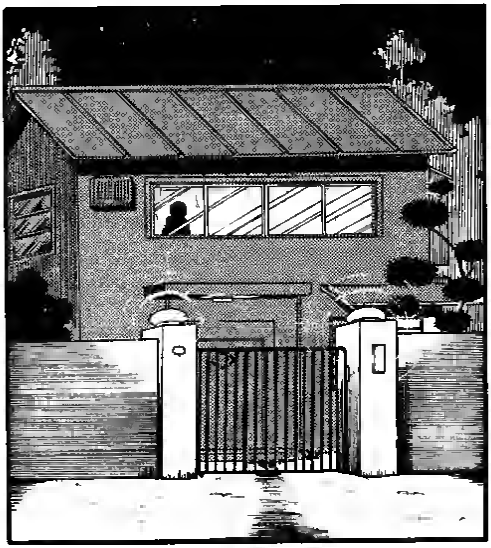
Either that or he's been watching too much TV.
Maybe he's getting neurotic from overstudying

Yes...
Koichi really said that?

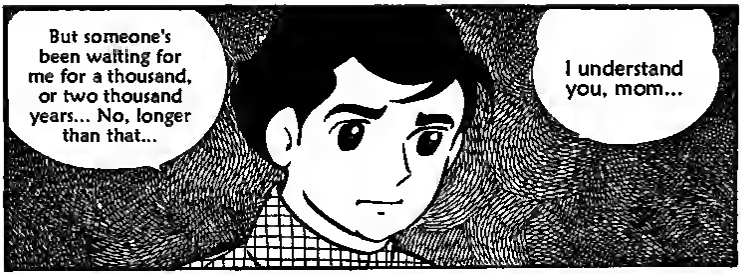


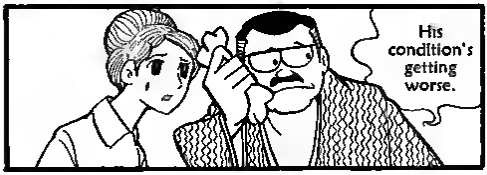
Either way, the best thing to do is to keep him home and let him rest for a while.

I thank you for your understanding.

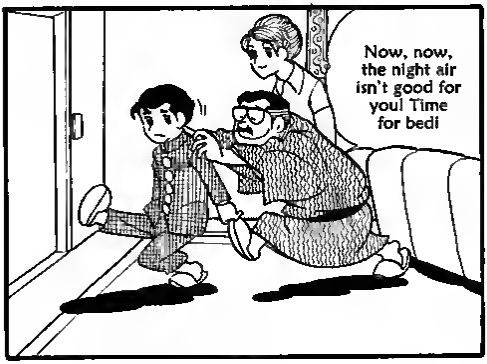


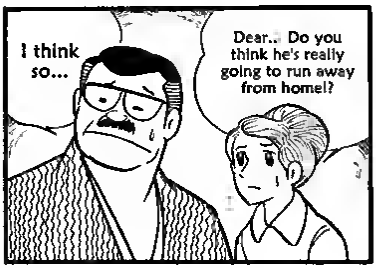
Koichi... Why are you standing there spaced-out, looking at the sky?
The messenger's coming tomorrow.
Sorry, I can't, Dad.
Hey, Koichi! Wanna go catch the baseball game tomorrow?
You're our one and only son!
Koichi! Please stop talking about going away!
You keep going on about that!

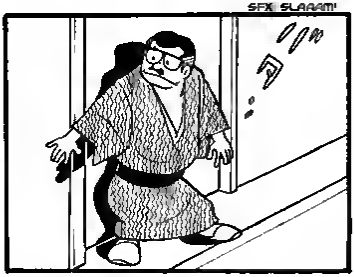

But someone's been waiting for me for a thousand, or two thousand years... No, longer than that...
I understand you, mom...

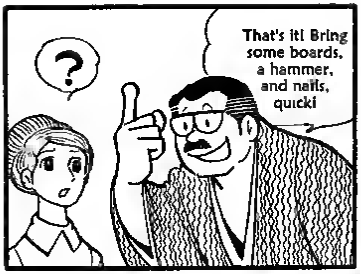

His condition's getting worse.

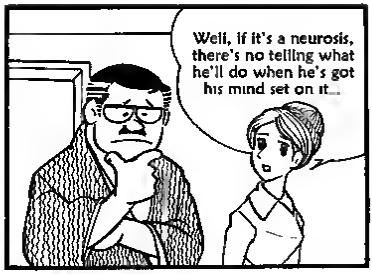
I'm having the same dream every night because whoever's waiting for me is calling to me from my dreams.


Now, now, the night air isn't good for you! Time for bed!

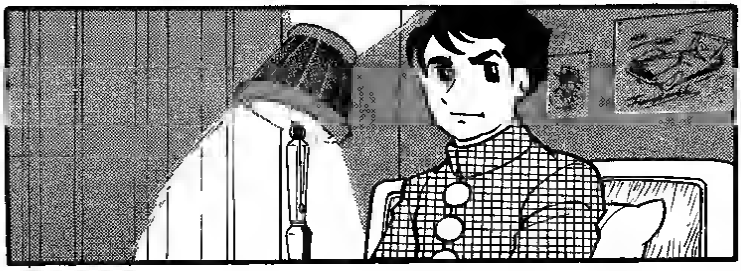

I think so...
Dear.. Do you think he's really going to run away from home!?


SFX: SLAAAM!



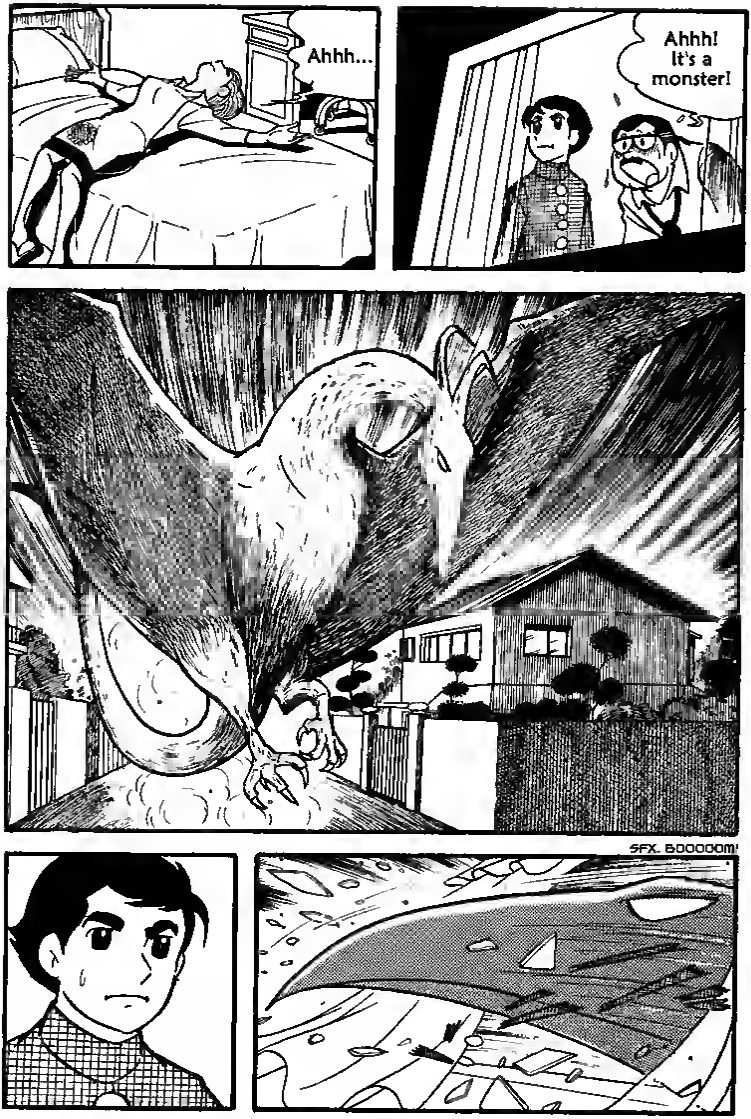


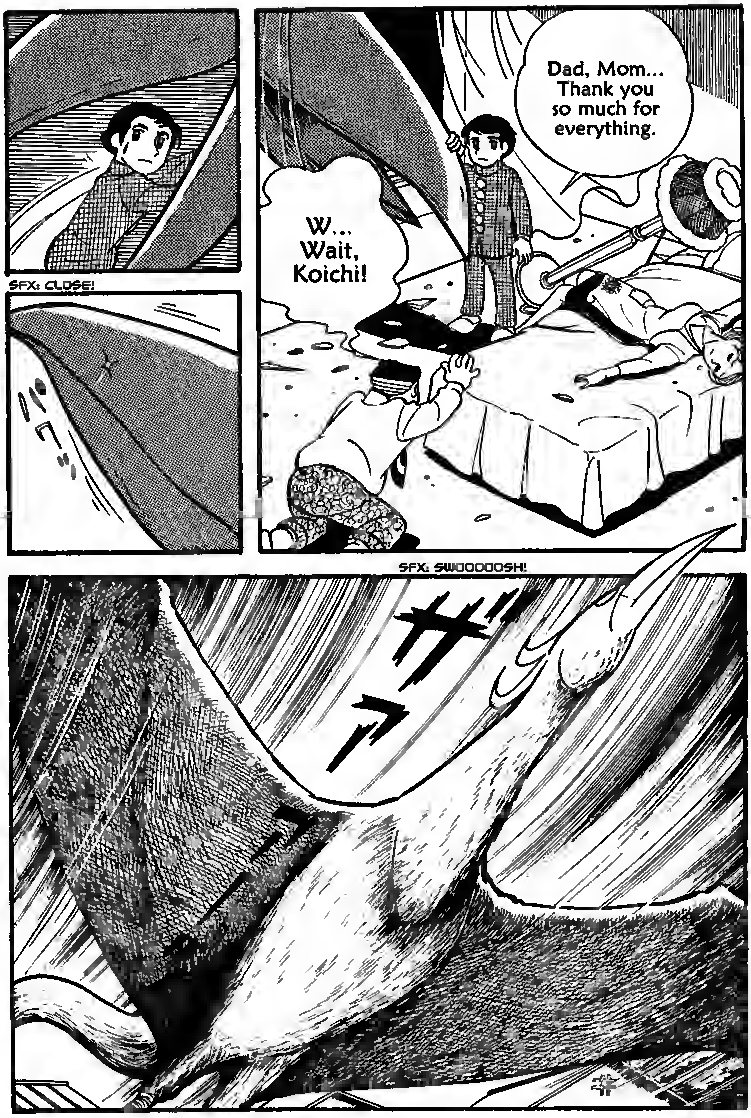
SFX: KNOCK! SMACK! KNOCK!

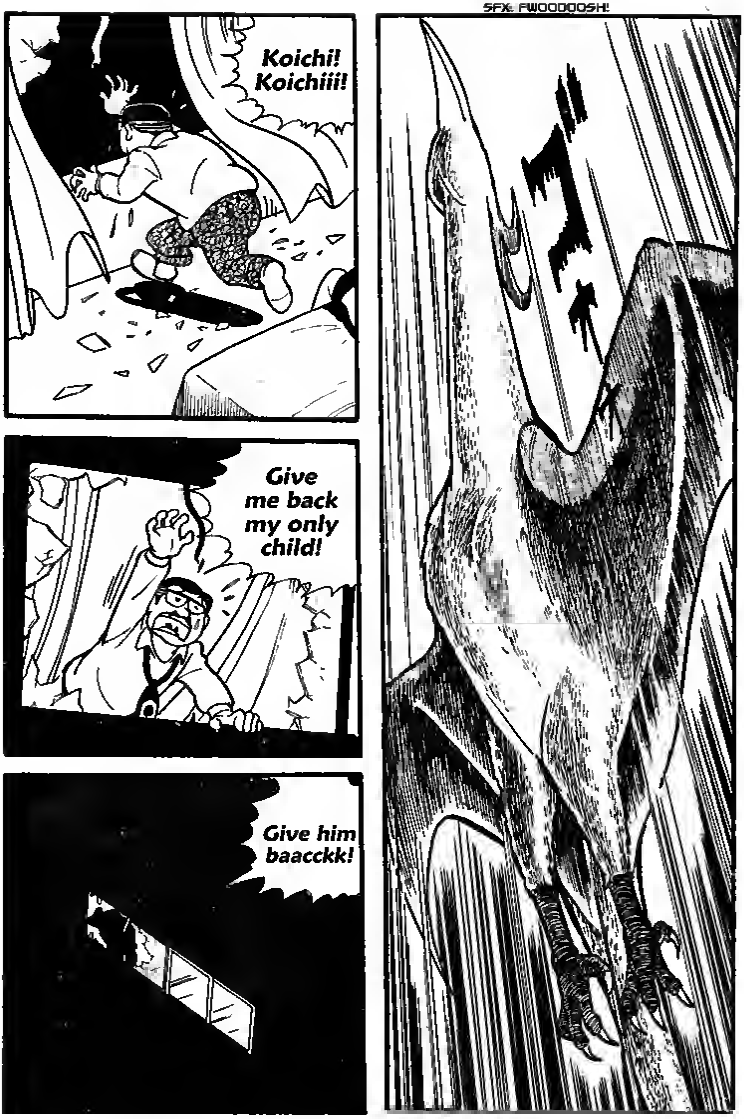


SFX: STEP! STEP!
Huh? Oh, look at the time!
Dear! It's already nine! Why don't you let Koichi out?
He won't be talking about running away anymore now!
SFX: CRACK!
I did a good job, if I say so myself!

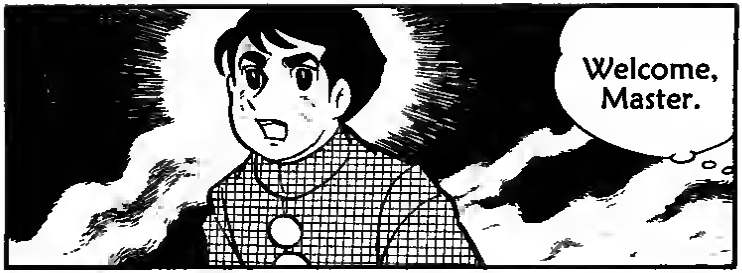
Hi...
Koichi!
The messenger is almost here...
Dad... Mom... It's finally time to say goodbye...
What!? You're still on about that?
I can feel it!
Look, dad! It's the messenger!
Koichi! What's gotten into you!? Snap out of it!


Ahhh...
Ahhh! It's a monster!
SFX. BOOOOOM!

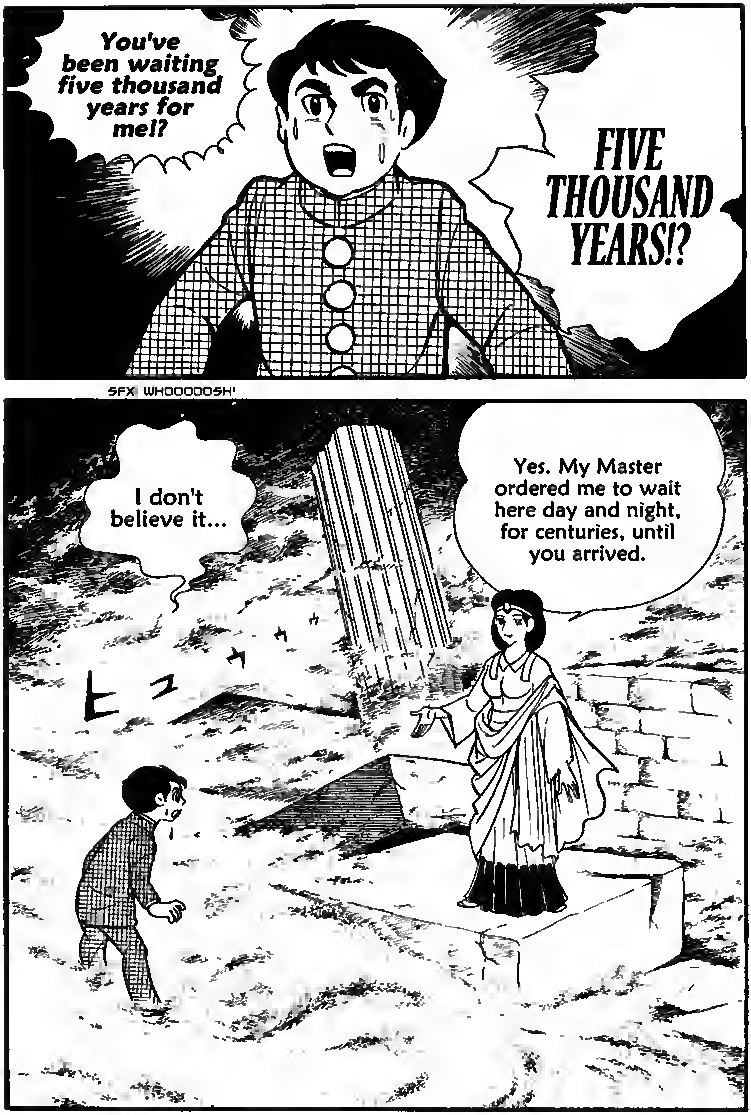

SFX: CLOSE!
W... Wait, Koichi!
Dad, Mom... Thank you so much for everything.
SFX: SWOOOOSH!


Koichi!
Koichiii!
Give me back my only child!
Give him baacckk!
SFX: FWOOOOOSH!

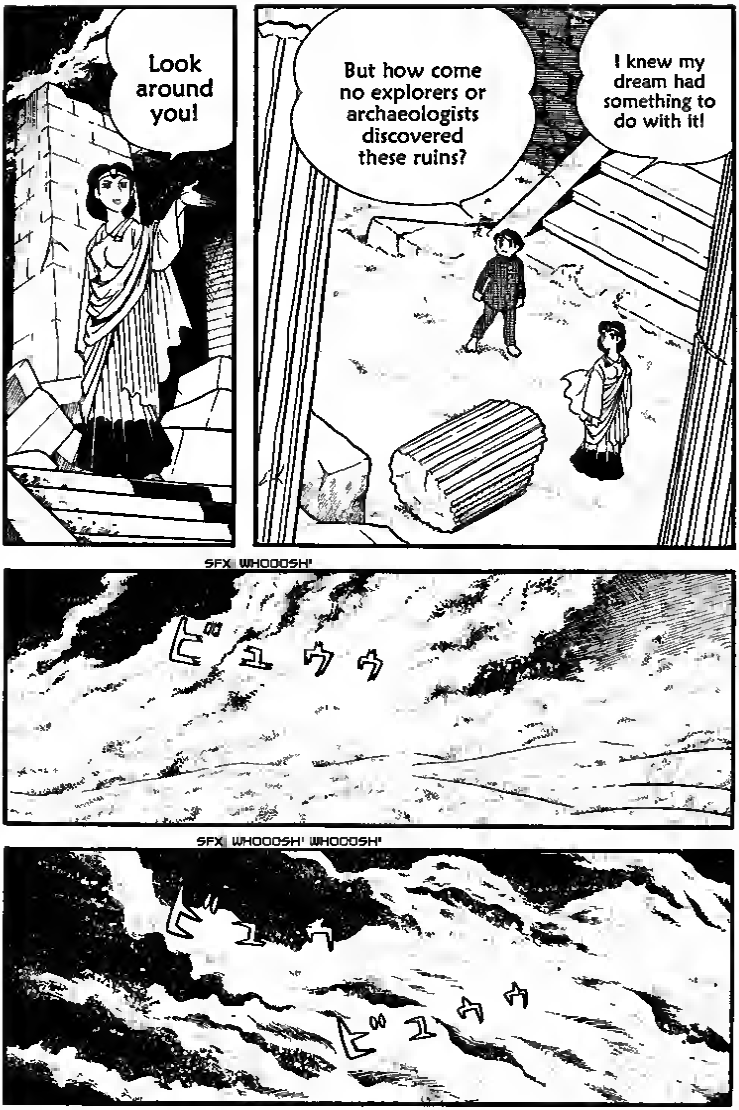
SFX: WHOOOOOSH!
Uhnn...


Welcome, Master.

SFX: WHOOOSH! WHOOOSH!
ヒュウウ
I have waited for five thousand years for your coming!
ヒュウ

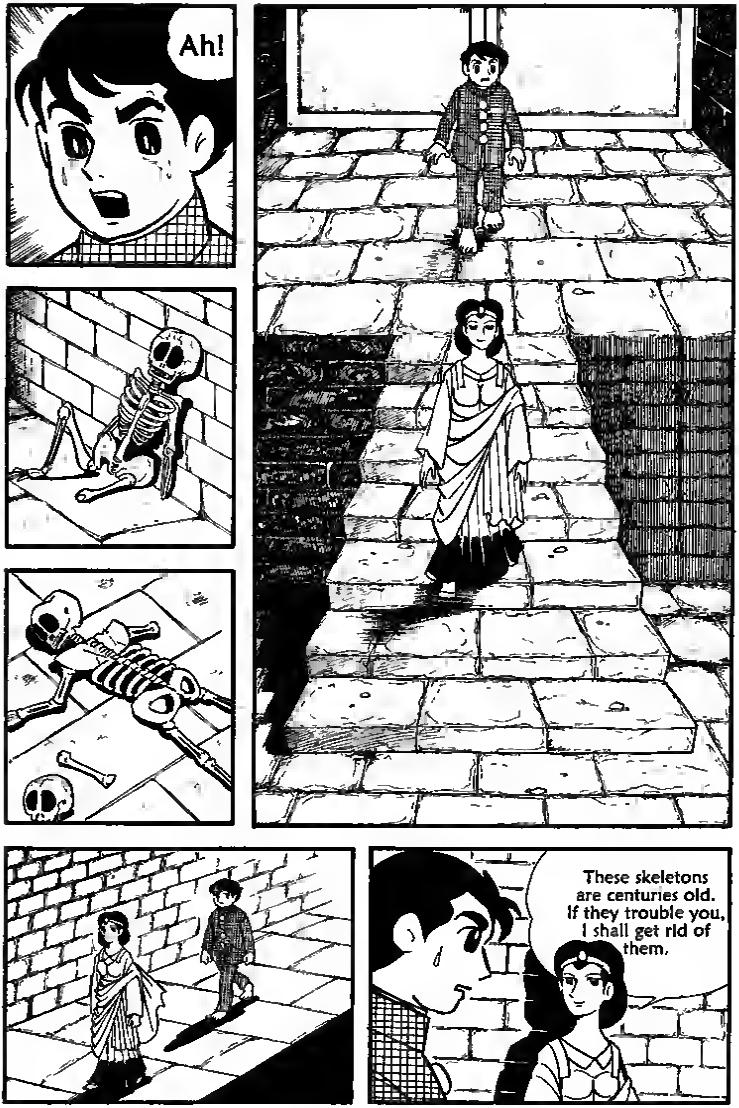

You've been waiting five thousand years for me!?
FIVE THOUSAND YEARS!?
SFX: WHOOOOOSH!
I don't believe it...
Yes. My Master ordered me to wait here day and night, for centuries, until you arrived.

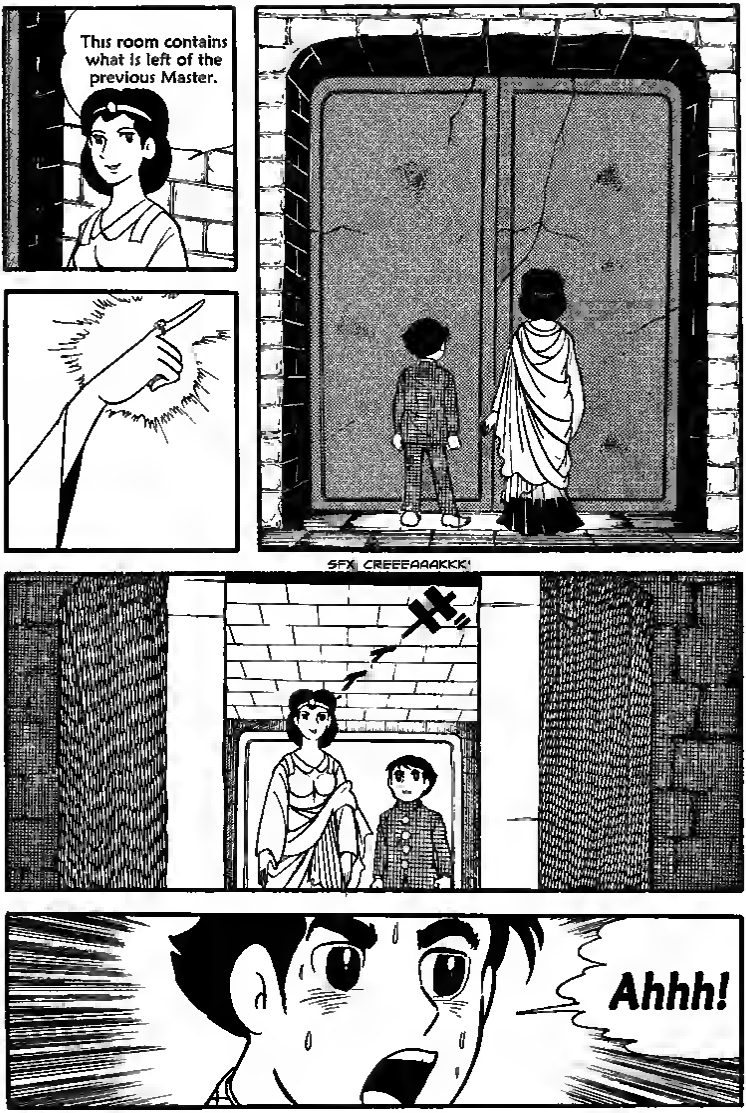
I shall vanish when it's time.
Dead?
Why aren't you dead!?
Now, follow me! You are now the new Master of this Tower!
Do you remember the story of the Tower of Babel from the Bible? These are the ruins of the very same Tower of Babel.
Where are we? What kind of ruins are these?

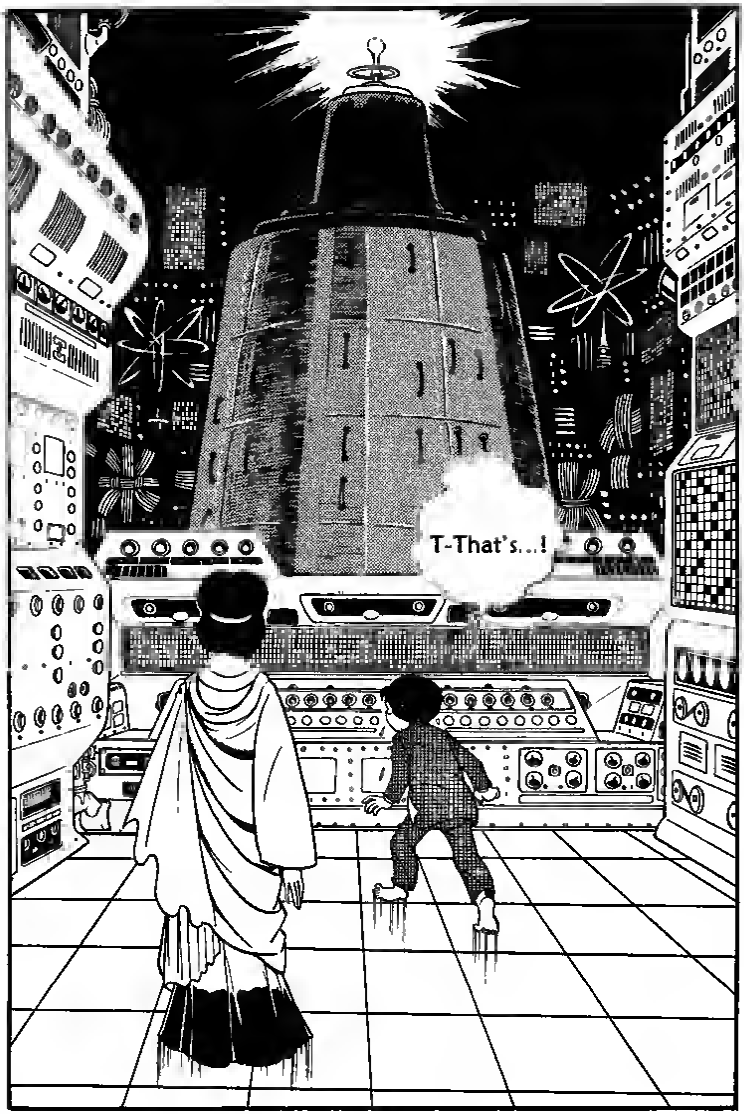

Look around you!
But how come no explorers or archaeologists discovered these ruins?
I knew my dream had something to do with it!
SFX: WHOOOSH!
ヒュウウ
SFX: WHOOOSH! WHOOOSH!
ヒュウウ
ヒュウウ

And it was built such that if anyone came closer, it would drive them away with a tornado.
The Tower is veiled by a sandstorm...
Yes, you are the only one who can enter, Master.
Is the sandstorm artificial, too!?
Built!?
SFX: WHOOOSH! WHOOOSH!
I don't believe it. An artificial storm...
Follow me, Master.

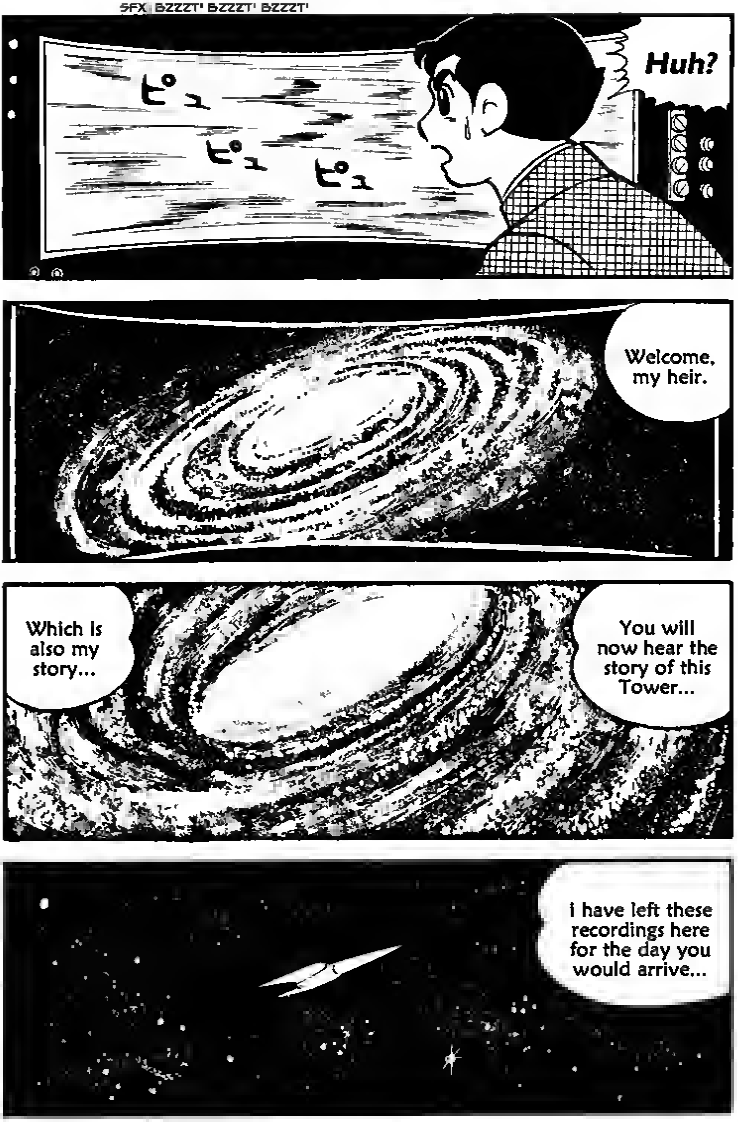
This is the entrance to the Tower.
SFX: CREEEAAAKKK!

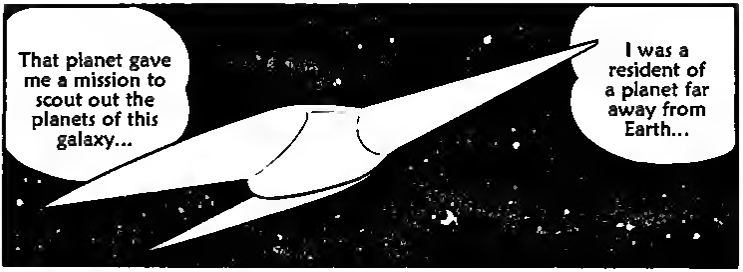

Ah!
These skeletons are centuries old. If they trouble you, I shall get rid of them.


This room contains what is left of the previous Master.
SFX: CREEEAAAKKK!
Ahhh!


T-That's...!

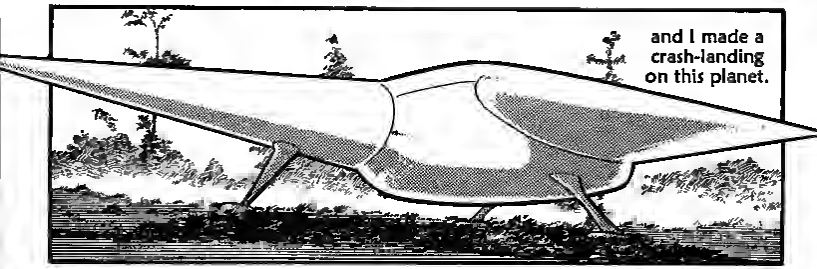
Yes, that is a five-thousand-year-old device.
You're not telling me this is five thousand years old?
This is the latest in modern technology!
Or am I still dreaming!?
Am I losing my mind!?
Look at the wall in front of you.
?
I know it is hard for you to accept without prior knowledge. But I have waited for you to prove it.

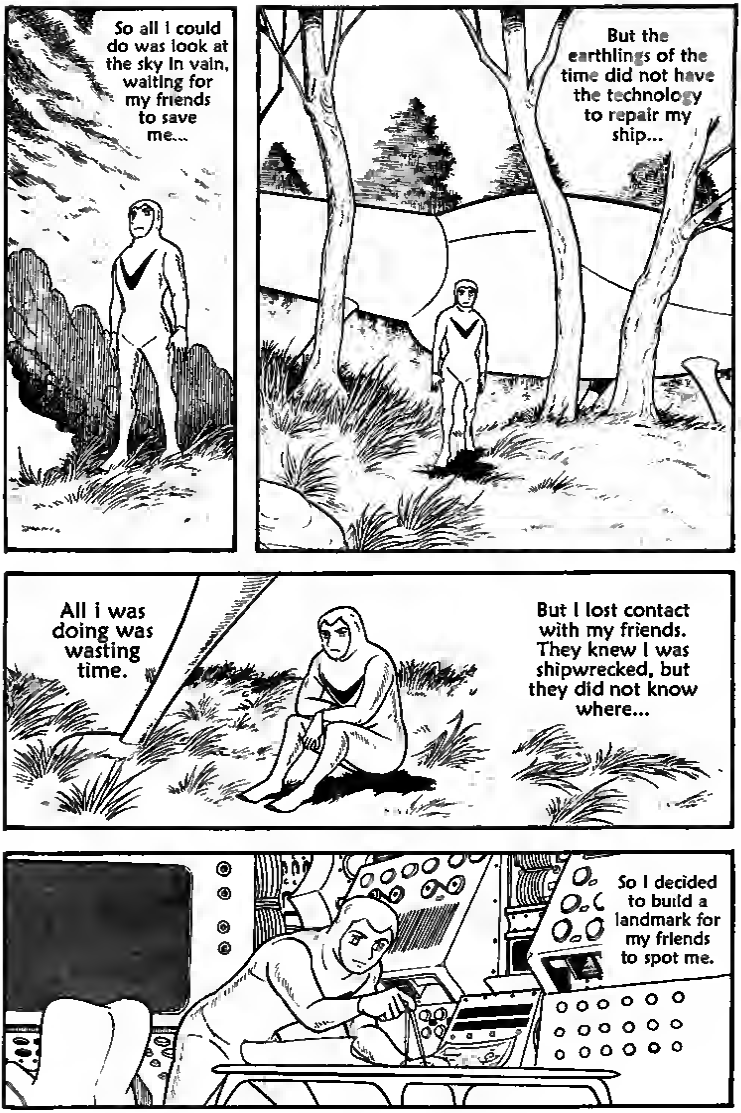

SFX: BZZZT! BZZZT! BZZZT!
Huh?
Welcome, my heir.
Which is also my story...
You will now hear the story of this Tower...
I have left these recordings here for the day you would arrive...

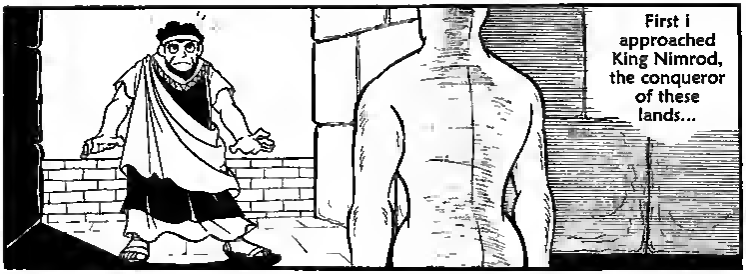

That planet gave me a mission to scout out the planets of this galaxy...
I was a resident of a planet far away from Earth...

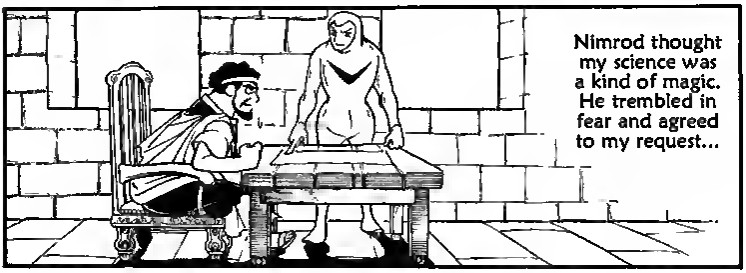
Unfortunely, my ship mal-functioned as I was above the Earth...

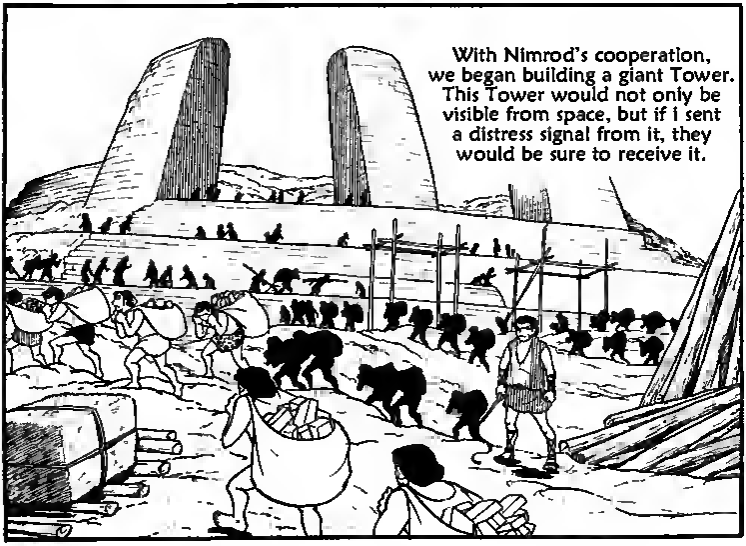
However...


and I made a crash-landing on this planet.


So all I could do was look at the sky in vain, waiting for my friends to save me...
But the earthlings of the time did not have the technology to repair my ship...
All I was doing was wasting time.
But I lost contact with my friends. They knew I was shipwrecked, but they did not know where...
So I decided to build a landmark for my friends to spot me.

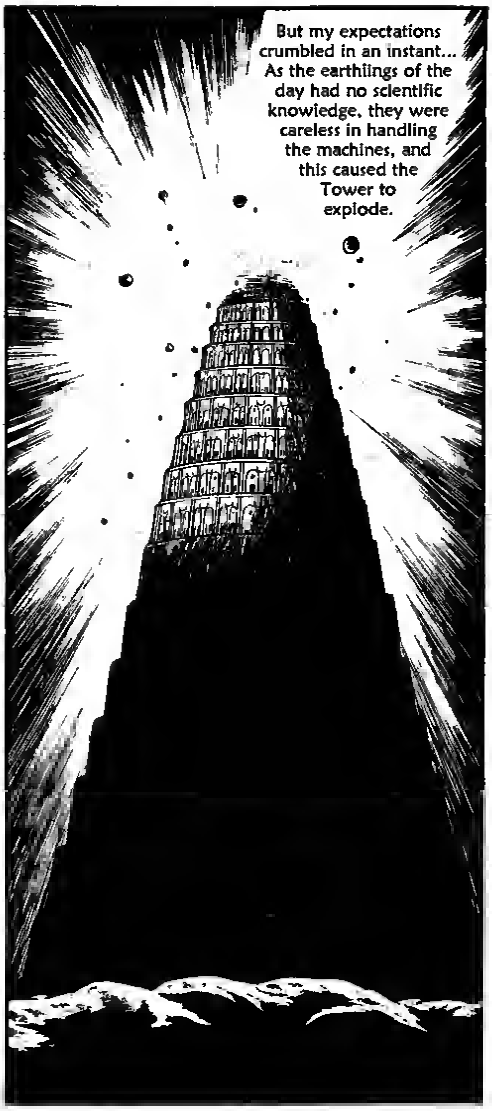

First I approached King Nimrod, the conqueror of these lands...


Nimrod thought my science was a kind of magic. He trembled in fear and agreed to my request...

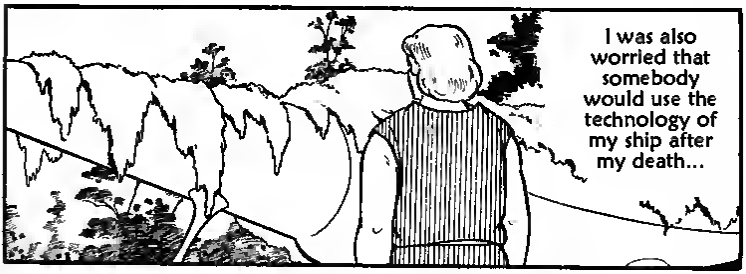

With Nimrod's cooperation, we began building a giant Tower. This Tower would not only be visible from space, but if I sent a distress signal from it, they would be sure to receive it.

That day I resigned to spend the rest of my days on this planet...

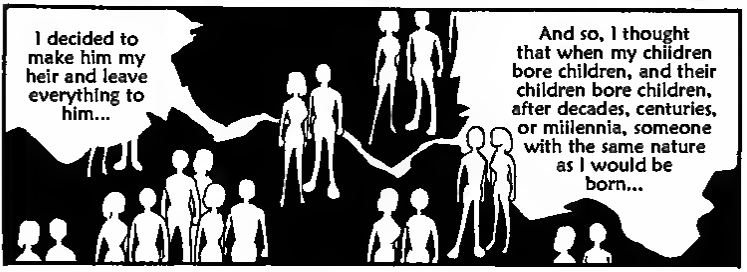
I married an earthling woman and lived like an ordinary earthling.


But my expectations crumbled in an instant... As the earthlings of the day had no scientific knowledge, they were careless in handling the machines, and this caused the Tower to explode.

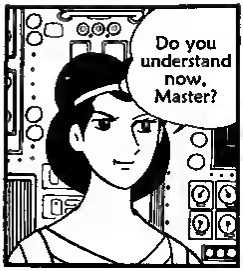
I was too different from the Earthlings...
But I was not happy...

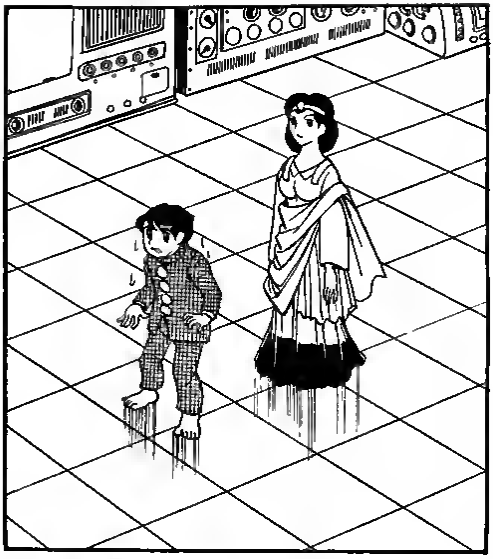

I was also worried that somebody would use the technology of my ship after my death...

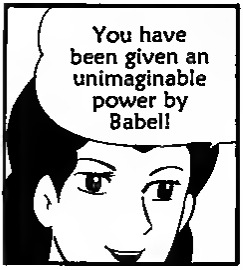
Whoever used it could bend the world to their biddingi

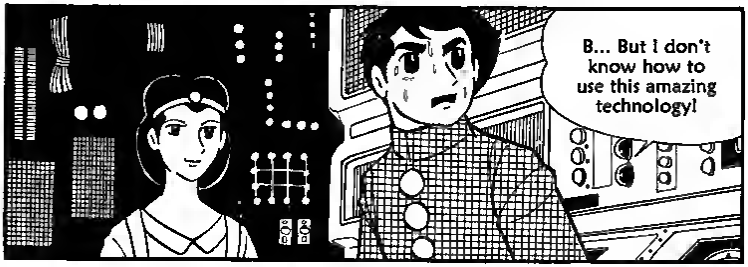

I decided to make him my heir and leave everything to him...
And so, I thought that when my chiidren bore children, and their children bore children, after decades, centuries, or miilennia, someone with the same nature as I would be born...

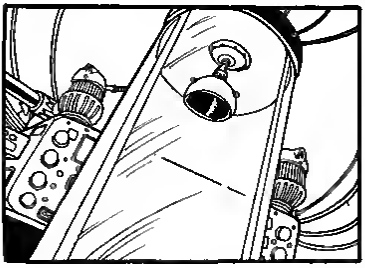
And finally, a human with those abilities has arrived.
I spent the rest of my life for that purpose. I built a special machine to detect my heir. Whoever could pick up on its signals had the same paranormal abilities as I, and was my heir.
My name is Babel.
Welcome, my son...
You are free to use it to conquer the Earth, or for your fellow man...
I give this Tower and everything in it to you.
I consider it a joy to leave everything to a human whose abilities are the same as mine...

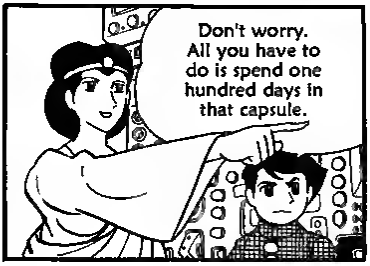

Do you understand now, Master?



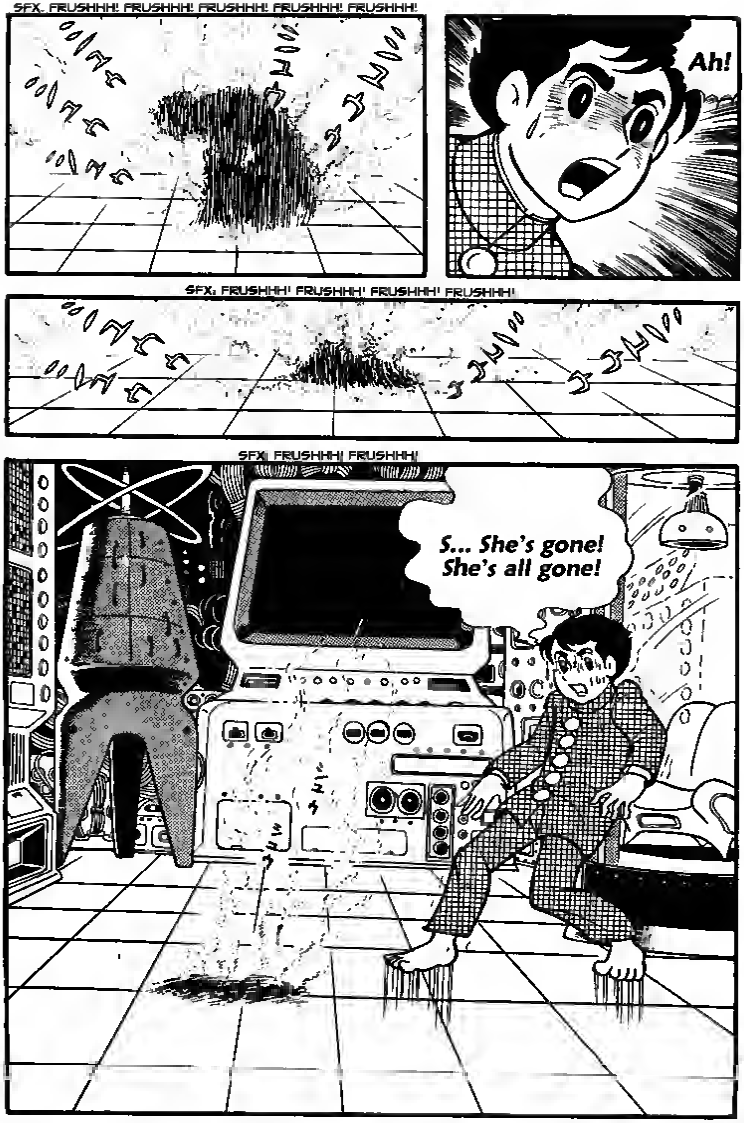

You have been given an unimaginable power by Babel!

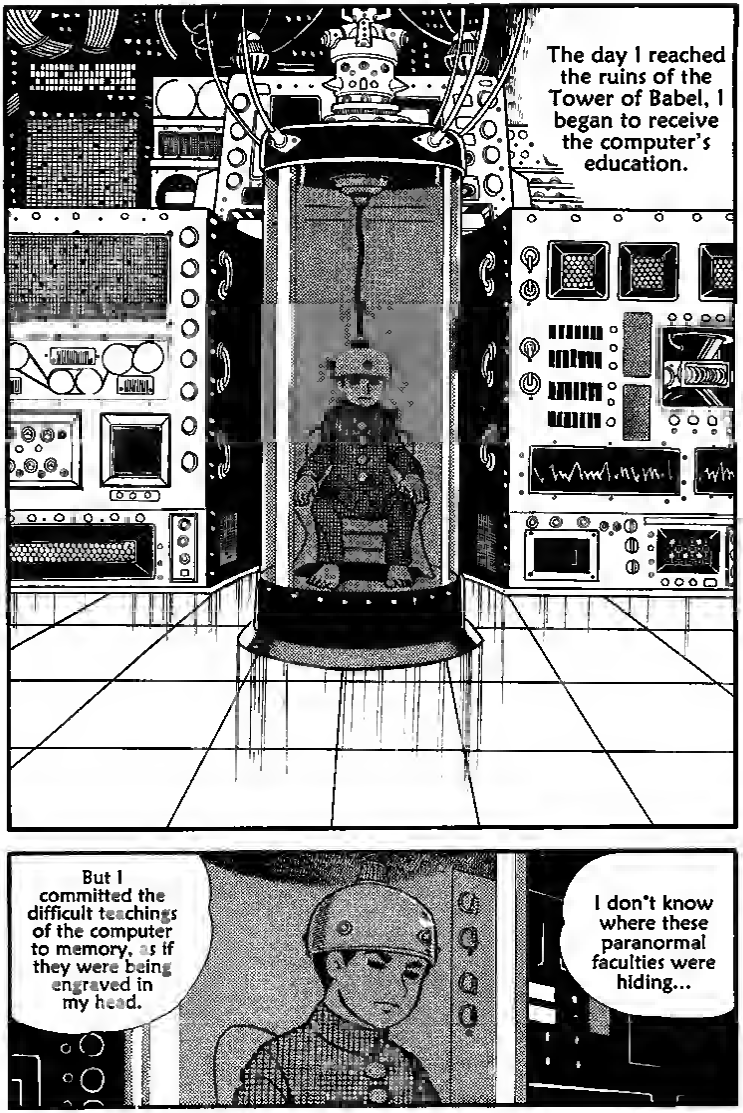

B... But I don't know how to use this amazing technology!

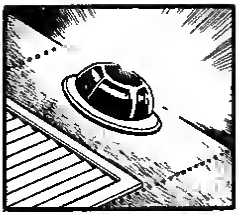



Don't worry. All you have to do is spend one hundred days in that capsule.

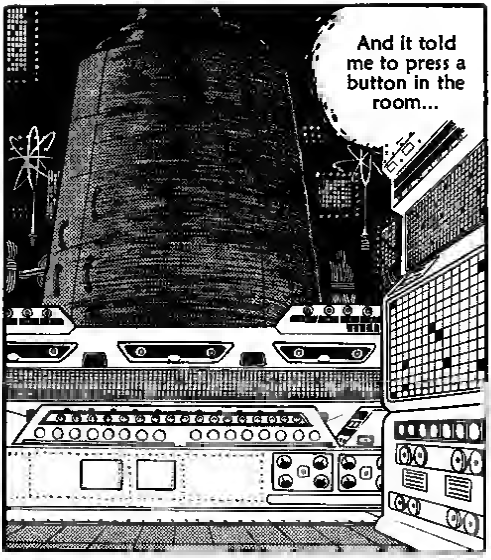
It will also give you an unrivalled power. Not only that, the Three Servants shall protect you.
Then the computer will tell you all you need to know.
But now I can vanish in peace...
It was a very long mission ...
Now my mission is complete.
SFX FRUSHHH! FRUSHHH! FRUSHHH!
Fare-well, my Master...

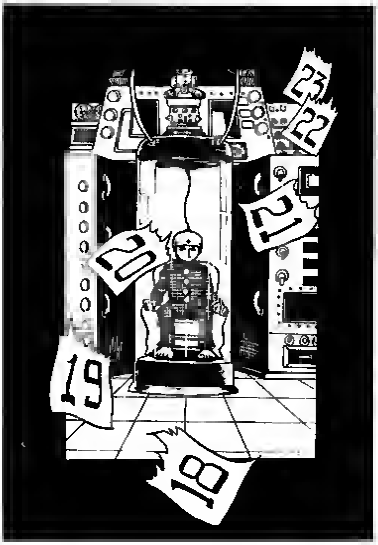

SFX. FRUSHHH! FRUSHHH! FRUSHHH! FRUSHHH! FRUSHHH!
Ah!
SFX. FRUSHHH! FRUSHHH! FRUSHHH! FRUSHHH!
SFX. FRUSHHH! FRUSHHH!
S... She's gone!
She's all gone!


The day I reached the ruins of the Tower of Babel, I began to receive the computer's education.
But I committed the difficult teachings of the computer to memory, as if they were being engraved in my head.
I don't know where these paranormal faculties were hiding...



When I pressed that button, the Three Servants would automatically begin to guard me...


And it told me to press a button in the room...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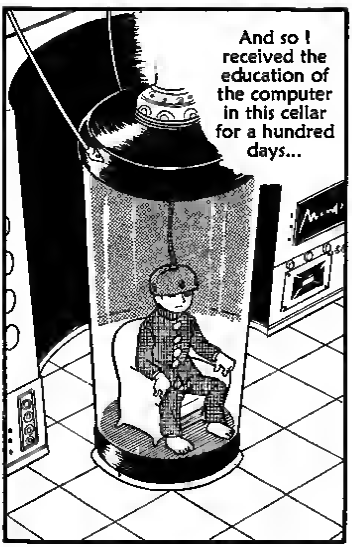
And so I received the education of the computer in this cellar for a hundred days...

BABEL2 バビル2世

TRANSLATED BY KATNTONIA
TRANSLATIONCHECK BY SYSTEMATICCHAOH
CLENNING BY WRIGHT
TYPESETTING BY KAZUHIND

CHAPTER 1